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Greece now in "Great Depression"



ATHENS - Greece is in a "Great Depression" similar to the American one in the 1930s, the country's Prime Minister Antonis Samaras told former U.S. President Bill Clinton yesterday.

Samaras was speaking two days before a team of Greece's international lenders arrive in Athens to push for further cuts needed for the debt-laden

country to qualify for further rescue payments and avoid a chaotic default.

"You had the Great Depression in the United States," Samaras told Clinton, who was visiting Greece as part of a delegation of Greek-American businessmen. "This is exactly what we're going through in Greece - it's our version of the Great Depression."

Government and APFA sign important agreement

Last Friday afternoon, the government of Aruba and the pension fund organization, APFA sat down together to sign a very significant document regarding Aruba's pension fund. According to the Prime Minister, it took an exceptionally long time, a very long process, before getting to the point of signing the agreement between APFA and the government. Director of APFA, Sheila van Veen, placed her signature to the document on behalf of APFA along with the signatures of Prime Minister Eman and Minister de Meza, who both signed for the government.

The agreement signed, forms the basis for a recovery plan that APFA will submit to the Central Bank, the official supervisory body of the pension fund of among others all public servants. According to the PM... "The agreement of the Social Dialogue of 2010 resulted in the 2011 introduction of a new system for calculating pensions that civil servants will collect in the future; while bearing in mind the years that each pensioner accumulated before the changes in 2011."

It was agreed that by January 1st 2011, the pension would be based on the middle income with a franchise in it. Also, that the retirement age would be 60 years of age, at which time the pension will become effective. The structure of the final salary has become the middle income and with the franchise has made the pension even more solid. These reforms were necessary to have safeguarded the APFA pension fund, according to the government.

After arranging for the reforms of the pension, the next step was to do the calculations



to ascertain how many years it would take for the fund to be 100% solvent again. "The government, APFA and various experts met together for a very long time on the matter. The Central Bank also provided their counsel during the long process and now we have finally arrived at the signing of an agreement," said PM Eman. During the ensuing years the government will be contributing with an additional 3% premium, which is part of the recuperation plan of the APFA fund. Based on the expert calculations of several Actuaries 100% solvency will be

achieved in a span of 15 years. Central Bank offered their approval to this and will continue to supervise APFA to ensure that they reach the goal of a full recovery of the fund.

The Prime Minister remarked that APFA is an important institution in our community and has contributed financially to many worthy initiatives over the years. It is a very important institution for thousands of pensioners and for the many more that will need them in the future when they become pensioners.

Continued on page 4

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Aruba is very proud to have Colombians living here!



During one of the most beautiful ceremonies held on Colombia's National Day here on Aruba, the Prime Minister of Aruba congratulated the colony of Colombians residing on Aruba on their national day. One of the elements which were evident during the celebrations was the commonalities and cooperation which have always existed between Colombians and the people of Aruba.

In his discourse the Prime Minister mentioned that Aruba is very proud of the different colonies that have become a part of our people, those who immigrated here and are now an important part of the Aruban commu-

nity. The Colombian community is one of the communities that stand out, not only because they are the largest group of immigrants but especially because of their love for the island, and the shared history we have with Colombia, and for the goals we dream about together with them, we have a historical connection and also for the future, according to the Prime Minister.

In his speech the Prime Minister made reference to his recent trip to the indigenous Wayu group in Colombia and how he learned from them and of their ties with the people of Aruba.

Continued on page 4



Pointers to Ponder

Tony A.D. Green www.people-self-development.com



ARE YOU ON SALE?

In the upcoming issues of The Morning News I'm going to shift gears and address a series of topics dealing with self-development, or call it personal development. I will try to give our readers pointers to ponder about how they can improve their personal lives and find greater fulfillment. I begin today with the topic: **Are You on Sale?**

Every day I talk to people who act as though they are on sale....I don't mean FOR sale, but ON sale.

I can spot these people from a distance sometimes. You see I can recognize them so well because there was a time in my life many, many years ago, when I was on sale....I remember being there at a deep discount!

Let me share with you nine ways that you can know you are on sale. And, my goal in this article is to help you not only recognize where you are, but to give you the tools that you can apply to make the shift you need to make. I want you to stop seeing yourself as a deal at "Directie Wat-dan-ook" (or wherever you work) to instead consider yourself a limited edition from Heaven!

If any of the nine ways apply to you, make the commitment right now to change your thinking! Here are the 9 things to identify you as being on sale:

1. Giving away work or stuff for free:

If you are in the habit of giving away your work for free, you're on sale. I refer to work, any work that you give away to friends for free but that others are expected to pay a fee. This does not include the occasional pro-bono work you do. I am referring to regularly

giving away your knowledge, your time and expertise without receiving anything in return.

2. Giving to everyone but to me:

Most housewives believe that because they work inside the home taking care of children and a husband that this does not constitute a real job. So, they do not put away money for themselves.

Careful, I don't want to create any problems for couples here with this concept. This is something you obviously must discuss as a couple before any steps are taken to ensure that you can agree on such a concept. Then, there are those who believe that their salary is not big enough for them to make financial decisions. Still others believe that it is their duty to give everything away to their family no matter how much they earn. These are wrong concepts in my view. You should make sure you have a fund that is yours and yours alone! Such a fund could be a life saver in the event of a storm or rainy day.

3. Guilt feelings for taking money:

If you feel guilty for taking money, whether earned, inherited, or otherwise legally obtained you're on sale. Maybe you don't realize that the relationship you have with money will directly impact how much of it will flow in your direction. If money is not flowing in your direction you want to check and see what is clogging up the hole.

4. Gloomy relationship that is going nowhere:

If you're in a gloomy relationship that is not fulfilling but you've decided to stay in it either because you are afraid to

hurt the other person, or because you think that that is what you deserve after all... that it is the best you can do. But, you know down deep that you do deserve more, you do deserve better! Well, then it is time to make your life amazing and surround yourself every day with someone who thinks you are the greatest and best thing that ever happened to planet earth! If your partner does not value you as he/she should, get counseling, get help and change your situation!

5. Gladly perform at your very best:

If you do your job because you are good at it, and not because it pays you what you think you're worth, and because you are passionate about your work, you're on sale! The people who have achieved the biggest success in life are those who have figured out exactly what they were designed to do and then determined to do just that...and to do it with all their heart and get paid well for it too! Go to work tomorrow because you WANT to not because you have to and expect to be paid well!

6. Going the road of others:

If you always allow other people to dictate your life for you, either by way of suggestion or outright direction and command...you're on sale. Stop playing the role of the victim. Listen to people who haven't made it and they are always blaming someone else for their lot in life. On the other hand, if these same people became successful and everything was going great for them, who will they blame? Nobody but themselves!

Continued on page 4

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City Hall expansion building progressing nicely



During the midnight hours last Friday, employees of the ALBO construction company poured the last floor on the City Hall expansion building called the "Cocolishi" building. This new section of City Hall will be the new government Ministers' quarters for the government of Aruba.

During the early hours of the morning the Prime Minister strolled over to the building site to get a firsthand look at how



the work is progressing. They have reached the highest pinnacle of the building, the top floor. The PM had words of praise for construction supervisor, Egidio Yrausquin and his work team for the efficient way that the work is being realized. Coincidentally, Egidio Yrausquin is a former school mate of the Prime Minister. It is expected that on September 1st, the birthday of both Eman and his former school mate, Yrausquin, will be the celebration of the Aruban "spanten bier" (celebration with beer for reaching the highest point of a building

construction) age old custom.

This new building annex to City Hall will house the Council of Ministers and their direct staff, contrary to the actual situation. The office that the Prime Minister occupies currently will become an office of protocol where dignitaries will be received and meetings will be held with visitors.

The historic City Hall complex will be restored and will remain the primary entrance to the seat of the government of Aruba; all in an effort to keep the political and governmental historical aspect of Aruba's government.

Continued on page 4

Dutch royal family 'overtake Britain's as most expensive in Europe'



The Dutch royal family has overtaken the British monarchy to become most expensive in Western Europe at a cost of £31 million a year to the country's taxpayers, an international study has found. Dutch Queen Beatrix, who lives in a state-owned palace in a forest on the edge of The Hague, is paid a salary of 829,000 euros (\$1 million) a year and also receives 4.31 million euros (\$5.24 million) for "personal and material" expenses. The budget for Queen Beatrix, Crown Prince Willem-Alexander and his wife, Princess Maxima, was cut in 2011 by 422,000 euros (\$512,982) to 39.2 million euros (\$47.4 million), according to the latest figures on the Royal House website.

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Aruba is very proud ...

Continued from page 2

Eman expressed praise and gratitude to all Colombians who helped with the development of Aruba.

In his words... "every sector of Aruba bears the marks of a Colombian who gave some effort to the development of Aruba. In our buildings, our hospital and in our homes, there are the efforts of an engineer, a builder, a doctor, a housewife, who were born in Colombia but made Aruba their home.

"Many thanks to you, we love you, and let's celebrate this day together."

Pointers: ARE YOU ON SALE?

Continued from page 2

Fact is that you have as much control over making things right in YOUR life. We often forget that it really doesn't matter what happens to us, what really and truly matters is what we do with what happens to us. If you lose your job...that happened! But what you do with what happened is what would put you on the top! Use that circumstance as your next step to the next great achievement of your life!

7. Granting a hostile work or home environment:

If you tolerate a hostile work environment or a hostile home environment...you're on sale. If you have chosen to live a life of abundance, as an employee or family member you cannot surround yourself with toxic people, or toxic things and places. You have to get rid of them or stay out of their path. I know what that is like; I worked in an environment with several toxic people. I could not get rid of

them, so I determined to stay as far away from them as I could. When the day came for me to leave because they no longer wanted me around, I was so delighted and relieved I went home and literally jumped for joy! Actually, it was I who finally decided that I had had enough and through varying circumstances worked my way out of that situation.

8. Guarding against all confrontation:

If you avoid all confrontations, even if it results in making you suffer...you're on sale. There are those of us who believe that all confrontations are negative, but this is far from the truth. Confrontations can be excellent opportunities to change things for the better. Practice healthy, wise, well-thought out confrontation administered with tact and sincerity and it will make a positive difference in how you feel about you. Each confrontation

you engage in or initiate is a way of watching out for you.

9. Give everybody a yes and yourself a no:

If you habitually say yes to everyone's whim and wish but you always say no to yourself...you're on sale. From my observations this is a major challenge for women especially. Mothers in particular have a big problem here. The time has come for you to put yourself first or everyone else will suffer. This is not being selfish; it is good sense and wise thinking. Even the airlines know that you are in a better position, even as a Mother, to help a child in an airline emergency if you put on your oxygen mask first and then help your child. If you don't, the child will suffer!

Well, what to do now? Are you on sale or not? If you think you are after reading this, you can do several things: **a.** consider what I have said to be rubbish (the toxic people will), **b.** write for more information and explanation, **c.** do everything possible this week to begin increasing your price! I know it and you do too...that you are one-of-a-kind and that you should get exactly what you are worth and nothing less! Stop being on sale, set your value higher and begin to truly enjoy the unique and priceless YOU!

If this article was helpful, write and let me know, thanks: tony-green.morningnews@hotmail.com

Government and APFA sign important agreement

Continued from page 1

According to the government, the fund is so solid now that the Central Bank feels very comfortable with the new developments surrounding APFA and with the recovery plan, hence they have giving their full approval.

The government had much praise for the excellent work of the new director of APFA, Mrs. Van Veen who picked up on the recovery plan and

worked on it diligently to completion. The PM also had praise for the support and understanding received from the Unions and for all those who participated in the National Social Dialogues. He is proud to acknowledge that the Unions had the maturity and knowledge to realize that together they had to make changes to accomplish the goal of a sound and solvent pension fund.

City Hall expansion ...

Continued from page 3

At the back of the building there are plans for building a Plaza dedicated to Aruba's Padu Lampe, co-author of our national anthem. An appeal has been made to the architects to create a living fountain that would move every hour to the rhythm of Aruba's national anthem. This is intended to be an attraction for locals and visi-

tors and a part of the total beautification of the city center and surrounding area.

According to supervisor, Egidio Yrausquin, they have programmed to complete the entire project towards the end of September 2013 when they intend to hand over the keys of the Cocolishi building to the government.



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Art Rules Aruba unveils their completed street art in Madiki Kavel



Art Rules Aruba Guest Instructors



Kip Sisters and staff of art rules Aruba with Elvis Lopez



teachers Vanessa Paulina and Amy Sherald with art students

The third edition of Art Rules Aruba, (ARA) a two-week program of workshops for island youth in several art disciplines, finished up this past weekend with their showcase of presentation at the Cas di Cultura on Friday evening, July 20, and the unveiling of a this year's community beautification project at Madiki Kavel on Saturday afternoon.

This year, the program, which was hosted by Elvis Lopez at the Ateliers '89 Art Studio, featured classes in Fashion, Film Production and Digital Narrative, the art of being a DJ, Dance, Theater, Photography, Music & Performing and Street Art, which was integrated into the government funded Bo

Barrio program to produce a beautiful gathering place for the neighborhood Madiki Kavel, a barrio just on the western outskirts of Oranjestad.

The two-week ARA program was founded by the Kip sisters, Ayra-anandra and Irasharay, who spent their youth on Aruba before going off to Holland to continue their education. They established the Pancake Gallery, and work extensively in the visual and performing arts, using their contacts to bring a new level of art education to Aruba featuring a dynamic generation of guest instructors.

This year ARA welcomed an international coterie of teachers including Brandon Dalton, Dale Arroyo, Lynnee

Denise, Sean Armstrong, Jordan Mahome, Samora Bergtop, Justin McKenzie, John Walder, Erik Rico, Jason Hicks, Winston "Winne" Bergwijn, and Amy Sherald, who partnered with local artist Vanessa Paulina to teach the Street Art class. Fifteen youngsters participated in that program. Island filmmaker Joseph Henriquez and local fashionistas Joase-Ann van der Biest were also on staff.

The closing event of the intensive two week program was the proud unveiling of the beautiful wall that takes

graffiti to a new level and a final farewell party for students and staff. The artwork is located at a curve in Caya Frere Nobertius, within the FCCA community, close to the neighborhood police station and FCCA office.

Last year it was San Nicolas which was selected for the ARA class in street art; Aruban communities have no end of blank walls that would benefit from their touch, and next summer's program should hopefully produce another admirable piece.

by Rosalie Klein



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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Feared regime forces assault Syrian capital

DAMASCUS (AFP) - Feared forces led by President Bashar al-Assad's brother used helicopter gunships yesterday in a new assault on rebels in Damascus, activists said, as clashes also raged in Syria's second city Aleppo.

The Fourth Brigade headed by Maher al-Assad mounted an offensive in the Damascus neighbourhood of Barzeh, triggering an exodus of residents, as a rebel commander ap-

he said.

Abu Omar also said the army was raiding the nearby Rukn al-Din neighbourhood, while "helicopters used machineguns to fire into the district's streets."

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said "the feared Fourth Brigade" commanded by President Assad's powerful younger brother Maher was carrying out the Barzeh attack.

"Troops have stormed the

"The regime is collapsing, the speed at which it is falling has increased. That means it will use greater violence in order to try and save itself," said Sheikh.

The Observatory also warned that a siege was underway on the outskirts of the upscale Mazzeh neighbourhood, saying "dozens of tanks" were preventing medical teams from accessing the area to scores of injured.

The official SANA news agency announced that government forces had "cleansed" the capital's Qaboon neighbourhood of "terrorists," the regime's term for rebel fighters.

And state television aired footage reportedly from Qaboon showing dead bodies and weapons, communications equipment and money it said was captured from rebels.

But it denied helicopter gunships were being used in the capital.

Residents in the city reported bread shortages, and the UN agency for Palestinian refugees UNRWA expressed concern about the fate of residents of the Yarmuk camp in the city.

As battles continued in the capital, a rebel FSA commander declared that the battle to "liberate" the northern city of Aleppo had begun.

In a YouTube video, Colonel Abdel Jabbar Mohammad Oqaidi announced "the start of the operation to liberate Aleppo from the hands of Assad's gangs," while pledging that rebels would protect civilians, including the city's minorities.

In a new toll, the Observatory said that more than 19,000 people have been killed since the uprising against Assad's regime began in March 2011.

northwestern Barzeh district of Damascus with tanks and armoured personnel carriers," the group's director Rami Abdel Rahman said, adding that snipers had been deployed on rooftops.

The rebel Free Syrian Army's (FSA) military council head General Mustafa al-Sheikh told AFP "a real war of attrition" was underway in Damascus.



A Free Syrian Army soldier steps on portraits of President Bashar al-Assad at the Bab Al-Salam border crossing to Turkey July 22, 2012. Syrian forces regained control of one of two border crossings seized by rebels on the frontier with Iraq, Iraqi officials said, but rebels said they had captured a third border crossing with Turkey, Bab al-Salam north of Aleppo. "Seizing the border crossings does not have strategic importance but it has a psychological impact because it demoralises Assad's force," a senior Syrian army defector in Turkey, Staff Brigadier Faiz Amr, said.

peared in a video saying the battle to "liberate" Aleppo had begun.

"Regime forces are using helicopters to pound the Barzeh district," an activist who identified himself as Abu Omar told AFP via Skype.

"Families are trying to flee their homes, but it is difficult to get out of the neighbourhood. It is surrounded, and violence on the edges is intense,"

US police find Batman shooter's computer



Two people hug each other at Saturday's vigil at Gateway High School in Aurora.

AURORA (AFP) - US police have recovered a computer belonging to alleged Batman theater gunman James Holmes, which could provide vital clues to how he planned the massacre, a senior officer said yesterday.

Aurora police chief Dan Oates also revealed that Holmes could have been mistaken for an arriving SWAT officer, because of his full body armor, but praised his men for spotting him as a suspect.

The computer was found inside his apartment, which officers only got access to late Saturday after clearing sophisticated booby traps rigged up inside, apparently intended to kill police arriving after the shootings.

"I'm told there was a computer inside the apartment and with the assistance of the FBI that computer will be completely analyzed," said Oates told CBS talk show "Face the Nation."

"That may take some time. So we're hopeful that will yield some information," he added.

Holmes was arrested after allegedly opening fire early Friday at a midnight screening of the new Batman movie, "The Dark Knight Rises," in Aurora, Colorado. Twelve people were killed and 58 injured, many of them seriously.

Oates also revealed that, when Holmes was spotted behind the theater after the shoot-

ing, his full body armor could easily have led police to think he was a member of a SWAT team.

"Without going into too many details, there was one aspect of what he wore that did not fit what a SWAT officer might be wearing," he said.

"There was one particular piece of equipment that he had on him that was out of place and I am so proud of my officers that they spotted that right away and challenged him.

"I can't tell you in that chaos it is quite reasonable that an officer might have confused him for a SWAT officer, a heavily armed officer who was responding to the scene.

"So, kudos to my two cops that grabbed this guy and that sharp observation that they made immediately that led them to suspect him as being the suspect," he said.

The suspect is being kept in solitary confinement for his own protection, police said.

Asked if Holmes was being held in solitary, Aurora Police Department spokeswoman Jacki Kelley told AFP: "He's by himself," adding: "It's part of the protection process for him. Understandably this might be something that could upset other people. And it's part of the obligation to provide a safe environment for all the inmates in the jail."

Holmes is due to make his first court appearance today.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Israel's Barak: Hezbollah having advanced arms intolerable

JERUSALEM (AFP) - Israel will not tolerate the transfer of advanced weapons to Hezbollah, Defence Minister Ehud Barak said yesterday, as fears grew about the future of Syria's suspected chemical arsenal.

"The State of Israel cannot accept the transfer of advanced weapons systems from Syria to Lebanon," he said in remarks relayed by his office.

"We are closely monitoring the possibility that Hezbollah will try to take advantage of the opportunity to transfer advanced weapons systems," he said, referring to Lebanon's Shiite militia, a key ally of the embattled regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

"It is inappropriate to say any more than this -- when we would act, how we would act, if indeed we would act," he

said in remarks communicated by a spokesman.

Israel has frequently raised the alarm over the possibility of Hezbollah gaining access to Syria's suspected stockpile of chemical and other advanced weapons, fearing that such a scenario could become reality in the chaos that would accompany a collapse of the Assad regime.

And on Friday, Barak said he had told the army to prepare for a possible military operation.

"We are monitoring the situation on the Syrian-Lebanese border, that during Assad's downfall, Hezbollah will try to put their hands on advanced anti-aircraft systems, surface-to-surface missiles or elements of chemical weapons, and transfer them to Lebanon," he

told private Channel Two television.

"We are following these things and preparing. I've ordered the army to prepare in such a way that if situations arise that will force us to consider action, we will be able to consider it."

Asked about Barak's remarks, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ruled out the option of seizing any such weapons.

"We didn't consider seizing them," he said in an interview with Fox News Sunday. "There are other possibilities."

Netanyahu said that it was unimaginable that Hezbollah, which Israel blames for a recently deadly suicide bombing in Bulgaria that killed five Israelis and their local driver, get its hands on chemical weapons.

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Record levels of rain kill 37 in Beijing

BEIJING (AFP) - The death toll from the heaviest rain to hit Beijing in over 60 years has risen to 37, Chinese state media reported yesterday.

Xinhua news agency said more victims of the downpours which battered much of the capital throughout Saturday had been discovered, revising up considerably the number of dead from ten.

The rainstorms led to the evacuation of more than 50,000 people from their homes in Beijing, mostly from the city's outlying mountainous districts, as up to 46 centimeters (18 inches) of rain lashed some areas, the agency added.

Xinhua quoted the Beijing municipal government as saying 25 of the victims had drowned, six had died when their houses collapsed, one was killed by a lightning strike and five had been electrocuted.

Twenty-two of the bodies have been identified, it added.

The agency had earlier reported the death toll at 10 but said it was expected to rise as numerous people, including rescue workers, were missing.

The government flood control headquarters told AFP damage assessments were ongoing.

Three bodies were reco-

vered in Beijing's mountainous Fangshan region where several landslides were reported, China National Radio reported.

Up to 46 centimetres of rain fell in Fangshan district, the most rain to hit the city in a 14-hour period since records began in 1951, Xinhua said.

Photos showed entire parking lots flooded, while rescue and traffic workers were seen diving underwater to unclog roadside drains as helpless drivers looked on from partially submerged cars.

Numerous roads in the capital were submerged under up to a meter of water, while 500 outbound flights were cancelled and at least 80,000 passengers stranded.

Yesterday, clean-up crews were out repairing damage under largely sunny skies, while workers scrambled to drain up to one million cubic meters (35 million cubic feet) of water from the sewer system.

Despite the damage, the rain was largely welcomed in drought-prone northern China which has suffered from a lack of rain over the last decade.

More torrential rain was forecast in China's northeast and southwest, after at least 10 other people were killed since Friday.



Photo depicts Norwegian King Harald, right, and Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg, center, attending a memorial ceremony for the victims of bombings and shooting near the site of a heavily damaged building by the bomb at yesterday tack, in Oslo, Norway, yesterday. Norway marked the first anniversary of the bombing in government buildings in Oslo, and shooting dead of youths at a Labor Party youth camp on Utoeya island.



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Health & Living

'No excuse' not to end AIDS: US expert

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A leading US expert in the AIDS pandemic said Sunday there is "no excuse" scientifically for not putting an end to the disease that has killed some 30 million people since it emerged

in the 1980s.

Speaking to reporters on the first day of the International AIDS Conference in the US capital, Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Dis-

eases, said science has the tools needed to combat HIV/AIDS.

"The fact remains that right now, today, in the summer of 2012, 31 years after the first cases were reported, there is no excuse scientifically to say we cannot do it," Fauci said.

"What we need now is the political, organizational and individual will to implement what science has given us."

Fauci cited the recent UN-AIDS report released last week that showed there were 2.5 million new infections worldwide in 2011, down from 2.7 million in the prior report, but said that rate of progress is not fast enough.

"But that makes the slope look like that," he said, holding out a flat hand. "That is unacceptable."

"The challenge that we face right now is we have the tools to turn around the inflection of the pandemic," he added. "So the critical issue is now we have an implementation challenge."

Among the tools that scientists have include trials that show treatment can reduce the risk of transmitting the virus to others, and antiretroviral drugs that, when taken by healthy people, can help reduce their risk of becoming infected.

Research toward an AIDS vaccine is continuing, as are efforts to find a cure.

The 19th International AIDS Conference runs through July 27 and is expected to draw 25,000 people, including politicians, scientists and activists, as well as some of the estimated 34 million people living with HIV.

Some key efforts being discussed at the meeting include how to accelerate the pace of treatment in order to cut back on new cases, and how to get funding to the parts of the world most in need.



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Leading AIDS charity amfAR honored Microsoft tycoon Bill Gates Saturday, on the eve of the International AIDS Conference, for his part in funding an ongoing struggle against the disease. At a gala dinner at the Kennedy arts center, Gates accepted the Award of Courage on behalf of all scientists, health workers and those who have either died from AIDS in the past three decades or who live with the HIV virus. "We have many potential game-changers that are bringing us closer to the end of AIDS," he said, citing promising new vaccines as well as antiretroviral drugs that help those infected with HIV stay alive. Through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, built on his software fortune, Gates has committed more than \$2.5 billion in HIV grants to organizations around the world, including amfAR. Introducing Gates was film star Sharon Stone, amfAR's global fundraising chairman, who wiped tears of emotion off her cheeks as she told him that "people will continue to live because of you."

Sex workers denied US visa hold their own AIDS conference



KOLKATA (AFP) - Hundreds of sex workers from around the world who said they were denied visas to attend an international AIDS conference in the United States began their own meeting in Kolkata on Saturday in protest. Some 550 representatives of sex workers from India and 41 other countries were attending the seven-day event in the eastern Indian city, organisers said. India's AIDS control programme has cut new HIV/AIDS infections by 50 percent in the last 10 years. The country has an estimated 2.4 million people with HIV. One of India's key strategies has been to scale up preventive education campaigns among high-risk groups such as sex workers. But despite the significant drop in fresh cases, India still has the highest number of people living with HIV after South Africa and Nigeria. The Indian conference has been called the sex workers' "Freedom Festival". The Kolkata meeting will deliberate on the "Seven Freedoms" -- the right to move, work, have access to healthcare, participate, organise, be free of violence and discrimination -- without which sex workers say they cannot reduce their vulnerability to HIV. Kolkata sex worker Bharati De said she was disappointed she could not go to Washington. "The restrictions imposed by the US on granting visas to sex workers have dashed our hopes of sharing our opinions with others," she told AFP.

(photo shows some India sex workers in front of their booth)

German circumcision row could reach highest court

BERLIN (AFP) - Germany's constitutional court may have the last word on religious circumcision, the justice minister said in remarks to appear today, after lawmakers called for a legal framework to protect the practice.

Their resolution on Thursday came after a court in the western city of Cologne sparked nationwide debate by ruling last month to criminalise the practice -- observed by both Muslims and Jews on religious grounds -- deeming it tantamount to grievous bodily harm.

MPs of the lower house Bundestag adopted a cross-party motion Thursday calling for legislation by this autumn that would guarantee the right

to religious circumcision as long as it does not entail "unnecessary suffering."

Two opposition lawmakers who spoke to the Sunday weekly Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung voiced scepticism that legislation could be hammered out so quickly.

In an interview with the weekly Focus to appear on Monday, the president of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, Dieter Graumann, said the debate had "nothing to do" with anti-Semitism.

But he said he was surprised at the apparent ignorance of many Germans about religious rites, while hailing the Bundestag resolution.

Sci-Tech

Samsung records robust sales of latest smartphone

SEOUL (AFP) - South Korea's Samsung Electronics, the world's top smartphone maker, has sold more than 10 million units of its newest Galaxy S III model since its launch about two months ago, a report said Sunday.

The company said earlier this month it expected a record operating profit of 6.7 trillion won (\$5.9 billion) in the second quarter, boosted by strong sales of its flagship Galaxy smartphones.

The Korean firm, which is battling with Apple's iPhone and iPad for supremacy in the lucrative smartphone and tablet market, has seen heavy demand for its new Galaxy S III phone, which was introduced in Europe in May.

"It appears that it (accumulated sales) has exceeded 10 million units," said J.K. Shin, head of the Samsung's mobile communications division, according to Yonhap news agency.

Shin said last month he expected the global sales of the new phone -- available in more than 140 countries -- would surpass 10 million by the end of July, including sales of about a million units at home.

The third version of the firm's Galaxy S series offers face-recognition technology and improved voice-activated controls as well as a more powerful processor.

It also has a 4.8-inch (12.2-centimetre) screen that is 22 percent larger than the previous S2 version, while it can detect eye movements and override the automatic shut-down if the user is looking at the screen.

Samsung shipped 44.5 million smartphones in the first quarter, exceeding the 35.1 million of US arch-rival Apple, according to market researcher Strategy Analytics in April.

Samsung, embroiled in a slew of patent suits with Apple in international courts, is pinning its hopes on the S III to further erode its market share before the expected new version of Apple's iPhone 5 this year.

Earlier this month, Samsung won one of those patent battles, with a British judge ruling that Samsung's Galaxy tablet did not infringe Apple's registered design and that consumers were not likely to confuse it with the iPad tablet.



Indonesian police seized 14 whole preserved bodies of critically-endangered Sumatran tigers in a raid on a house near Jakarta, a spokesman said, while a man identified as F.R. was arrested in a suburban area of Depok suspected of his involvement in the illegal wildlife trade, national police spokesman Boy Rafli Amar told AFP. Poachers often sell tiger body parts to the lucrative traditional Chinese medicine market. There are fewer than 400 Sumatran tigers left in the wild. Several die each year as a result of traps, poaching or other human actions.

AFP/ PHOTO

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US, Canadian men held in Philippines for fake Viagra

MANILA (AFP) - An American and a Canadian have been detained in the Philippines for selling fake counterfeit Viagra pills through the internet, police said yesterday.

Canadian man Nicolai Boutnine and Joseph Dean, an American, were among six suspects arrested when police raided a call-centre in the central city of Mandaue last week the Philippine police criminal investigation group said.

Criminal charges were filed against the suspects following the police operation in response to a complaint from the pharmaceutical giant Pfizer that owns the erectile dysfunction drug's patent, said police spokesman Don de Dios.

"We are coordinating with the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement to secure some of the evidence needed for their prosecution," Senior Inspector de Dios told AFP.

He said the call-centre firm, 724Care Inc., used cloud computing technology provided by US online search giant Google to store sales data virtually.

This prevented local police from recovering sales receipts and related documents or the drugs themselves, whose location remains unknown.

He said they would need the US authorities' help in retrieving the data from the owner of the server that hosts the 724care.net account.



De Dios said the suspects, who also included four Filipinos, were charged for fraud and selling counterfeit drugs, both of which carry jail terms of up to 10 years.

Under these laws the suspects have the option to post bail, but de Dios said he was unaware if they had done so and if the court had ordered their temporary liberty.



PISA, Italy : A picture taken on July 17, 2012 shows anti tsunami plants, a special plant capable continuing to live under water for 48 hours, at the Plant Laboratory of the Italian University St. Anna School. A bionic hand controlled by the brain or an exoskeleton that allows a rescue worker to lift alone a wall crushing the victim of an earthquake: these innovations are not science fiction but indeed exist in Pisa, Tuscany. The Graduate School Sant'Anna of Pisa (SSSA), which includes six research institutes, has already developed two prototypes but also a robot capable of overcoming obstacles, another that recycles garbage or one that has the form of an octopus.

AFP/ PHOTO

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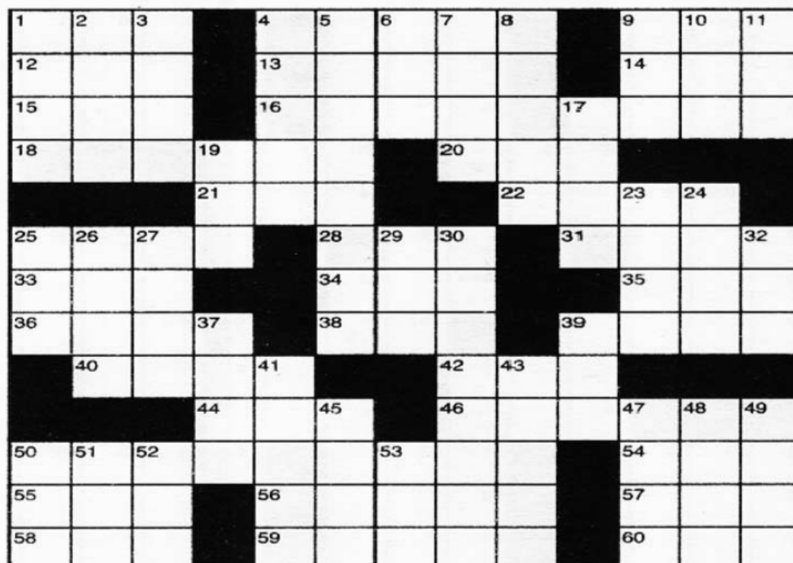
1. "So long!"
4. Author Asimov
9. ___-fi
12. Sleep stage (abbr.)
13. "Sing Along with ___"
14. Hard furniture wood
15. "___ a Camera" (2 wds.)
16. Worthy of respect
18. Time for a ___
20. Quick swim
21. "___ So Fine"
22. Trucker's truck
25. Christmas carol
28. That woman
31. Harmonized
33. Toothpaste-accepting gp.
34. Are indebted
35. Talk lovingly
36. Snack, Yiddish-style
38. Drenched
39. Exported
40. Bobbin
42. Little devil
44. Tennis hit
46. Ringling Brothers production
50. Fled from the cattle ranch
54. Egyptian cobra
55. Author Bracken
56. Actress Verdugo
57. 23rd Greek

58. letter
59. Drama division
60. Smelling ___
61. Scrap of food

DOWN

1. ___-a-brac
2. Yes, informally
3. Actress Watson
4. Mirror reflection
5. ___ Bob of "The Simpsons"
6. Modern bank teller (abbr.)
7. Citric ___
8. Tennis's
9. Bawl
10. Coolidge's nickname
11. Dwight's nickname
17. Primates
19. Canucks' gp.
23. Pepper spray
24. Sharing a secret (2 wds.)
25. A Bobbsey Twin
26. Garlic trait
27. Relaxed state
29. Flock member
30. Shy
32. Acquired
37. Forefront

39. Flowery season (abbr.)
41. Gallops easily
43. Golden-touch monarch
45. Lugosi of films
47. Mob VIP
48. Russia between 1917 and 1991 (abbr.)
49. Pointed rod
50. Health farm
51. Sleuth, for short
52. FBI worker (abbr.)
53. Singer Shannon



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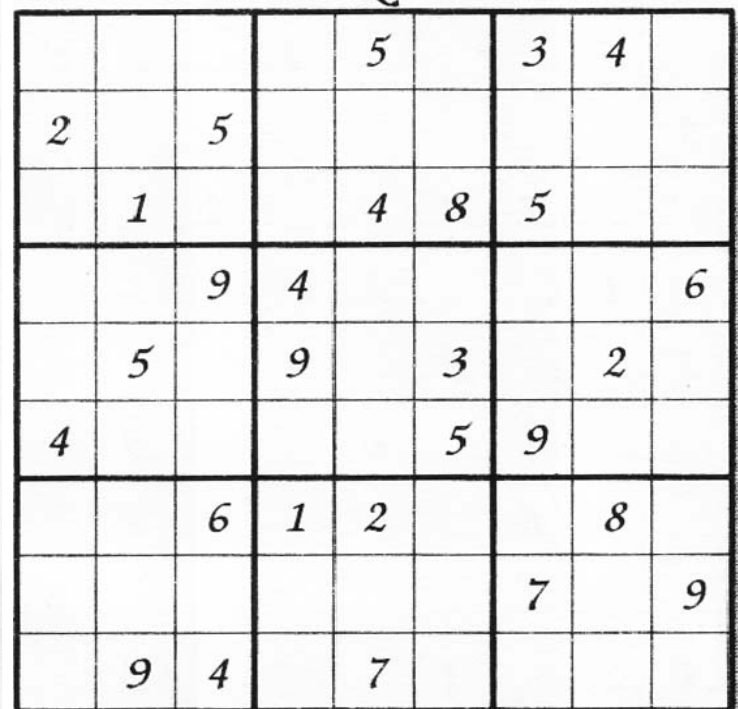
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2	4	5	3	9	1	6	7	8
6	1	3	7	4	8	5	9	2
3	2	9	4	1	7	8	5	6
8	5	7	9	6	3	1	2	4
4	6	1	2	8	5	9	3	7
7	3	6	1	2	9	4	8	5
1	8	2	5	3	4	7	6	9
5	9	4	8	7	6	2	1	3

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A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Finance

Super rich hold \$32 trillion in offshore havens

LONDON - Rich individuals and their families have as much as \$32 trillion of hidden financial assets in offshore tax havens, representing up to \$280 billion in lost income tax revenues, according to research published yesterday.

The study estimating the extent of global private financial wealth held in offshore accounts - excluding non-financial assets such as real estate, gold, yachts and racehorses - puts the sum at between \$21 and \$32 trillion.

The research was carried out for pressure group Tax Justice Network, which campaigns against tax havens, by

James Henry, former chief economist at consultants McKinsey & Co.

He used data from the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, United Nations and central banks.

The report also highlights the impact on the balance sheets of 139 developing countries of money held in tax havens by private elites, putting wealth beyond the reach of local tax authorities.

The research estimates that since the 1970s, the richest citizens of these 139 countries had amassed \$7.3 to \$9.3 trillion of "unrecorded offshore wealth" by 2010.

Prosecutors, regulators close to making Libor arrests

U.S. prosecutors and European regulators are close to arresting individual traders and charging them with colluding to manipulate global benchmark interest rates, according to people familiar with a sweeping investigation into the rate-rigging scandal.

Federal prosecutors in Washington, D.C., have recently contacted lawyers representing some of the individuals under suspicion to notify them that criminal charges and

arrests could be imminent, said two of those sources who asked not to be identified.

Defense lawyers, some of whom represent individuals under suspicion, said prosecutors have indicated they plan to begin making arrests and filing criminal charges in the next few weeks. In long-running financial investigations it is not uncommon for prosecutors to contact defense lawyers for individuals before filing charges to offer them a chance to cooperate or take a plea, these lawyer said.

The prospect of charges and arrests of individuals means that prosecutors are getting a fuller picture of how traders at major banks allegedly sought to influence the London Interbank Offered Rate, or Libor, and other global rates that underpin hundreds of trillions of dollars in assets. The criminal charges would come alongside efforts by regulators to punish major banks with fines, and could show that the alleged activity was not rampant in the banks.

HSBC scandal erupts as British bank sector faces shake-up

LONDON (AFP) - A scandal erupting at Europe's biggest bank HSBC has added to concerns over the state of Britain's financial sector amid the Barclays rate-rigging affair and as the industry faces a major shake-up.

HSBC last week apologised and its head of compliance David Bagley resigned after US lawmakers accused the London-based bank of failing to apply anti-laundering rules, benefiting Iran, terrorists and drug dealers.

The HSBC affair follows hot on the heels of the Libor interest rate rigging scandal that has brought down top executives at Britain's Barclays bank -- most notably its chief executive Bob Diamond and chairman Marcus Agius.

Regulators are reportedly investigating HSBC, as well as Credit Agricole, Deutsche Bank and Societe Generale, over alleged manipulation of the Libor rate after Barclays was recently fined £290 million over the affair.

Britain's financial regulator the Financial Services Authority (FSA) has said its Libor probe is looking at seven groups, which are not only British institutions.

Bank of England governor Mervyn King has meanwhile proposed that central bank governors and regulators discuss Libor reform at their upcoming meeting in Basel, Switzerland, on September 9.

Barclays has admitted attempting to manipulate the Libor and Euribor rates between 2005 and 2009.

Libor (London Interbank Offered Rate) is a flagship London instrument used as an interest benchmark throughout the world, while Euribor is the eurozone equivalent.

The rates play a key role in global markets, affecting what banks, businesses and indi-

viduals pay to borrow money.

Investec analyst Ian Gordon believes that the Libor affair will have a far greater impact on the global banking landscape than the HSBC affair.

"Libor will, I think, be seen to be a sector-wide issue and with us for many years to come," Gordon told AFP.

"The only good thing I can say about HSBC/money laundering etc is that it will be seen as a legacy issue, hence the fine -- when it comes -- will be a one-off rather than the prelude to civil litigation risk."

Also last week, Britain's state-rescued Lloyds Banking Group (LBG) agreed to sell 632 branches at a loss to The Co-operative Group after a European Union competition ruling.

LBG, which is 40-percent owned by the British government, was ordered by the EU to offload a sizeable chunk of its branches in exchange for a huge state bailout following the 2008 financial crisis.

The Co-operative Group's purchase is the latest step in the reshaping of Britain's banking sector, as the government seeks to separate retail bank

activities from investment divisions.

The Independent Commission on Banking last year ruled that British lenders should split their operations to avoid a repeat of the global financial crisis, blamed in part on highly speculative trading practices.

At the height of the financial crisis, Britain was forced to nationalise lender Northern Rock and also pump billions of taxpayers' cash into LBG and Royal Bank of Scotland.

A US Senate report has meanwhile found that HSBC had allowed affiliates in countries such as Mexico, Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh to move billions of dollars in suspect funds into the United States without adequate controls.

Lawmakers said money laundered through HSBC-linked accounts benefited Mexican drug lords and terrorist networks, and skirted US sanctions on Iran.

Analysts warned that the problems erupting at major British banks could further rock Britain's recession-hit economy.

SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

VIP ASKER FBI
PGA UNITE ELF
SOL DATED REF
AFIRE CINDY
ASTUTE JAM
BOILS RAPPERS
LOAF IVY LAIT
ENLISTS COSTA
LPS BARTER
GRILL PUREE
NOD ABODE RCA
ATO TONGS LOL
WES SAGES YDS

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Current as 07/22/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.74	1.76	1.78
Britain	GBP	2.73	2.78	2.84
Switzerland	CHF	180.73	181.45	182.25
Netherlands	EUR	215.32	217.29	219.47
Sweden	SEK	24.71	25.43	26.23
Denmark	DKK	28.23	28.95	29.75
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Enjoy “Summer: Come & Celebrate Art ♪” at the Westin Art Gallery



Eefje and Jan with new curators Michiko and Eduardo

Art lovers are invited to come and cool off in the stylish environs of the Westin Art Gallery, which is featuring a refreshing summer show that opened on Saturday evening, July 14, and will continue through the summer until August 30.

“Summer: Come & Celebrate Art ♪” is a collection of paintings, sculpture, collage and air-brush art featuring the works of island artists Edmond

Tujeehut. Eduardo Valbuena, Eefje van der Straten, Elvis Tromp, Hendrik Shouten, Irene Peterson, Joseph F. Miklojcik, Michiko Takatsu, Mo Mohamed, Sherry Douglas, Timothy Charles and guest artist from Florida, Bruce Yodanis.

It is a colorful collection, many of the works depicting the hot tropical landscape of Aruba by day, to the cool tones of twilight by night, in rich

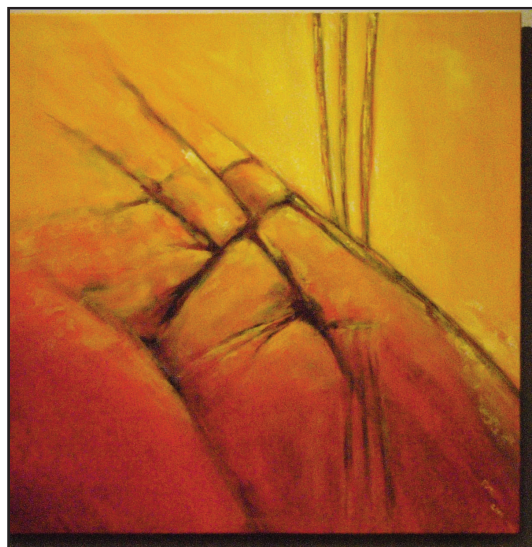
hues. During the opening night event Westin Art Gallery curators Eefje and Jan van der Straten announced that “Curators on the Go” Michiko Takatsu and Eduardo Valbuena, who handed this year’s exhibition for the Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival, will take over the gallery with this new show.

desk in the gallery.

The auction will end on July 28; those with the winning bids will be announced the following day. A sales representative is on premises from 3:00 to 6:00 PM every Tuesday and

Saturday through the end of the summer, or they can be contacted by calling 5882267/5652608/7402678 or e-mail: artgallery168@gmail.com.

by *Rosalie Klein*



Eefje van der Straten



Frank Croes



Hendrick Schouten

Michiko and Eduardo are well known as a team, and have been the curators for such events as the Aruba International Film Festival Art Competition, the annual Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival art expo, and now the Wine, Food & Art exposition every two years.

Works at the Westin Gallery are on display 24/7; the gallery is just off the main lobby, with entrance across from the cabaret theater. A number of the works are being offered in a silent auction, and bid forms can be placed in a box at the



Michiko Takatsu

Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up and

drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious,

connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge



offering privacy for parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet

services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



Taj Mahal Restaurant, an authentic culinary excursion

When Bharat Shah, originally from India, but now a successful businessman in California, put on a spectacular wedding in Aruba for his daughter Lisa and her groom Kalpesh, they welcomed hundreds of friends and relatives from around the world, including the "old country."

When all the wedding guests had finally arrived in Aruba, Bharat hosted an official welcome party along the shore in Palm Beach, and he chose to have it catered by Taj Mahal restaurant, he was that impressed by their cuisine.

If you like your Indian food authentic, or are looking for a new and unique dining experience, an evening at Taj Mahal will deliver a memorable meal. A seemingly endless menu offers scores of choices for fish, chicken, lamb and vegetarian dishes that are "the real deal;" discover that

Indian food goes way beyond curry!

A taste-testing crew from THE MORNING NEWS chose a selection of their singular starters and two main courses with saffron rice, served family style, which provided a fine example of the versatility of their chef.

Taj Mahal's Taj Choice is a great way to start the meal and be initiated into the joys of Indian cuisine, offering a diverse selection of traditional favorites. It contains hearty portions of Pakoras, crispy vegetarian fritters, Aloo Tikki, potato cutlets, Chicken Tikka, tender chicken breast pieces seasoned just right, and shaped and seasoned ground lamb, charmingly dubbed "Sheik Kebabs." All is served on a bed of sliced onions and brought to your table on a sizzling platter, and you will want to dish those sautéed onions on to one of their tasty Indian breads called Naan, leaving behind not a single crumb. Main dishes are accompanied by a choice of rice, mixed vegetables rich with garlic, or Naan, plain, buttered, onion or garlic, and you will want to order an extra basket or two of this tasty delight, on which you can spoon your main course, as well. Poori is crispy fried naan, and most definitely worth the extra two dollars to sample with your meal.

Our group also added an appetizer of crunchy Samosas, the Indian form of a potato knish, served with either cilantro or sweet and sour sauce. A platter of their Jhinga, large, crispy-fried shrimp in a delicate batter is ample enough to serve as a main course, though featured on their appetizer menu.

As we mentioned, main courses are served family style, in beautiful little pots that sit upon a candle to keep them warm. Our group sampled the "Mutton Saagwala," also known as "Lamb Shag" which is cooked in a thick sauce of yogurt and spinach, and the "Fish Hara Masala," moist, tender chunks of fish in a rich sauce featuring cilantro as the main flavoring. This is offered in mild, medium and very spicy, we found the medium quite spicy enough for us; it left a tingle on the tongue.



The family style service allows everyone at the table to sample a bit of this and that, and we heartily recommend you do, to truly appreciate this authentic bit of India in Aruba. Open for lunch and dinner, Taj Mahal sports a cozy and intimate air-conditioned dining room and a small outdoor terrace for those that enjoy dining al fresco. They have an exotic dessert menu to match, but our group was too stuffed to partake; there was even enough left to box up and provide a lunch next day for the lucky first person to get to it!

Located behind the Royal Plaza Mall, across from Aruba's Numismatic Museum, Taj Mahal offers a dining experience that is truly out of the ordinary; they feature an excellent and tasty selection for vegetarians too. If you are a fan of Indian food, or have been toying with trying it, Taj Mahal is the place for a very affordable dining experience and the real deal! Call 588-4494 for reservations.



Summer Olympics: July 27 - August 12



Mum's the word in gymnastics generation game



Curacao's trio of sprinter Churandy Martina (photo), Philip Elhage (shooting) and Rodion Davelaar (swimming) got the IOC nod to compete as independent athletes under the Olympic flag in London. Located in the Caribbean, the (Dutch Antilles) islands were independent territories of the Netherlands until 2010 and had their own Olympic Committee and team. The island is now part of the Netherlands as special municipalities and have no NOC since 2011. Their athletes will compete within the Dutch team in the future. The stateless refugee from South Sudan marathon runner Guor Marial can also compete as independent athlete under the Olympic flag IOC spokesman Mark Adams announced. Marial is based in Florida. South Sudan is recognized as a state but the war-torn country has no Olympic structures. Athletes from former Yugoslavia competed under the Olympic flag 1992 in Barcelona, and so did athletes from East Timor at the 2000 Games in Sydney



LONDON (AFP) - Olympics legend Nadia Comaneci held the 2012 torch aloft over London on Saturday as the flame began a seven-day tour of London that will culminate at the Games opening ceremony. Olympics organisers hope that with the flame now in the British capital, attention will turn towards sport and the final countdown to the Games -- and away from the security and transport fears that dogged the last week. Comaneci, the perfect 10-scoring Romanian gymnast who won five gold medals over the 1976 and 1980 Olympics, passed the flame on to British ex-NBA basketball star John Amaechi atop the North Greenwich Arena -- the former Millennium Dome -- which will host the artistic and trampolining gymnastics as well as the basketball finals.

LONDON (AFP) - Mums are on the march at the Olympics gymnastics competition, determined to make their mark on a sport long associated with elfin, pre-pubescent.

Whether they are in their twenties, like Catalina Ponor, or Oksana Chusovitina, now well into her thirties, the London Games medal battle will take on a more mature look.

The mother of a 13-year-

cracked up laughing. Now that it is happening, it gives me great pleasure," said Chusovitina, who switched her allegiance to Germany in 2000 after moving to the country to get treatment for her cancer-stricken son.

Romanian star Ponor, 25, who won three titles at the 2004 Athens Olympics, has returned to the sport after four years in retirement, buoyed by

lodge them from the podium," said the coach. "We have seen that with Oksana Chusovitina."

Despite his predecessor Nicolae Forminte believing that the minimum age rule of 16 was an obstacle to the make-up of a strong squad, Belu thinks differently.

"We need our stars to protect the image of the sport," he said.

Meanwhile, Britain's Beth Tweddle, who in 2006 became the first woman in her twenties to win a world title when she triumphed on the uneven bars, now has a chance to become Britain's first Olympic champion in the sport.

The mature look is also fashionable in the men's events.

Bulgaria's Jordan Jovtchev will be taking part in his sixth Olympics, six months shy of his 40th birthday.

"Four medals in five Olympics is already an achievement but like all sportsmen, I dream of ending my career with a medal," he said.



Russian gymnast Oksana Chusovitina, at 33 competing in the 2008 Olympics.

old boy, 37-year-old Chusovitina stands out in a sport which has often battled accusations that passports have been falsified to allow girls under 16 to take part.

Chusovitina, born in Uzbekistan but now representing Germany, won her first medal at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, before many of her London rivals were even born.

She then won a silver at the 2008 Olympics, followed by two more silvers at the world championship in 2011 and 2012 European finals.

having already won two gold at the Europeans in May.

"Perhaps everybody was surprised, but not me," said Ponor. "I missed all of this -- the top step on the podium, the adrenalin, the emotions, all those things you feel when you are competing."

"When I stopped, there was no problem in my head, it was because of problems with my back. Now I feel a lot stronger."

Romanian coach Octavian Belu believes the more mature gymnasts have a major role to



Britain's Beth Tweddle, in 2006

The London Olympics will be her sixth and last Games.

"If someone had told me that at the start, I would have

play in the Olympics.

"There is a place for older girls because the younger ones are not good enough to dis-

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Golf: One yard makes all the difference for Tiger

LYTHAM (AFP) - Another major, another miss by Tiger Woods, who insisted after finishing tied for third at the British Open on Sunday that his lengthening win drought does not unduly concern him.

"It's part of golf. We all go through these phases. Some people it lasts entire careers. Others are a little bit shorter," he said. "Even the greatest players to ever play have all gone through little stretches like this."

The 36-year-old American's last win in a major came at the 2008 US Open, after which his marriage was wrecked by a sex scandal and he was crippled by knee and ankle injuries.

Woods had the consolation



Hoyle in 2006.

And he managed to stay well in contention throughout the tournament until he fell victim to Royal Lytham's notorious pot bunkers, taking a devastating triple-bogey seven at the sixth hole.

That left him seven shots

the way it was blowing, I was right there in position," he said. "I was even par through five. And seven was reachable today. And nine was playing easy. So I was in position to do what I wanted to do and then turn home and shoot maybe two under par on the back nine and I would have posted an eight or nine under par."

"And I thought that was going to be the number to win the golf tournament. I thought eight was a playoff, nine was to win outright. Unfortunately I just didn't do it."

With Scott bogeying the last four holes after being 10-under at the 14th, Els eventually won the tournament at seven under.

There was one anxious moment when Woods winced and clutched at his leg after playing from a kneeling position in executing his second attempt to get out of the fateful bunker at the sixth.

But he insisted afterwards that there had been no problem.

Meanwhile the South African golf star Ernie Els, fresh off his fourth major victory says he wants to share a drink from the Claret Jug with anti-apartheid hero Nelson Mandela.

Els paid tribute to the statesman and former South African president in his victory speech at Royal Lytham after firing a final-round 68, two-under par, to finish on seven-under 273 for a one-stroke victory over Australian Adam Scott.



Ernie Els of South Africa holds the Claret Jug, 'The Golf Champion Trophy'

of posting his best finish at the British Open since he won the Claret Jug for the third time at

behind Adam Scott and although he managed to claw his way back to five under with a birdie at the par-three 12th, bogeys at the next three holes ended his hopes.

Ernie Els motored past him and then mowed down Scott for a stunning victory.

Woods, who played ultra-conservative golf for most of the week, said that he had a clear game plan in mind for Sunday's finale only for his five-iron approach to the sixth to land just one yard away from where he wanted.

"I was right there, the game plan was to shoot under par going out. And with the wind

US university continued from page 16

The team set up a metal fence around the area where the statue is located and covered it with a blue tarp to prevent the public from seeing them as they pulled up the bronze statue.

The report, by former FBI head Louis Freeh, excoriated the university for failing to notify the proper authorities immediately when revelations first surfaced that Sandusky had

engaged in improper behavior involving children.

Paterno, who died of cancer in January, was seen as the most powerful man in the university town of State College, Pennsylvania.

But Paterno's legacy has been forever sullied by the charges -- backed up in Freeh's report -- that he failed to take action against Sandusky, allowing him to target new child abuse victims at will.



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MLB Standings

American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
YANKEES	57	37	.606	--
BALTIMORE	50	44	.532	7.0
TAMPA	49	47	.510	9.0
TORONTO	48	47	.505	9.5
BOSTON	48	48	.500	10.0

Central	W	L	Pct	GB
DETROIT	52	44	.542	--
CHICAGO	50	45	.526	1.5
CLEVELAND	47	47	.500	4.0
KANSAS	40	54	.426	11.0
MINNESOTA	40	55	.421	11.5

West	W	L	Pct	GB
TEXAS	56	37	.602	--
LA ANGELES	51	44	.537	6.0
OAKLAND	50	44	.532	6.5
SEATTLE	42	55	.433	16.0

National League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
WASHINGTON	55	39	.585	--
ATLANTA	52	43	.547	3.5
NY METS	47	47	.500	8.0
MIAMI	44	51	.463	11.5
PHILADELPHIA	42	54	.438	14.0

Central	W	L	Pct	GB
CINCINNATI	55	40	.579	--
PITTSBURG	54	40	.574	0.5
ST. LOUIS	50	45	.526	5.0
MILWAUKEE	44	50	.468	10.5
CHICAGO	38	56	.404	16.5

West	W	L	Pct	GB
HOUSTON	34	61	.358	21.0
SAN FRANCISCO	53	42	.558	--
LA DODGERS	51	44	.537	2.0
ARIZONA	46	48	.489	6.5
SAN DIEGO	40	56	.417	13.5
COLORADO	36	57	.387	16.0

x-Clinched Playoff Spot; y-Division Champ



HOCKENHEIM : (L to R) Red Bull Racing's German driver Sebastian Vettel, Ferrari's Spanish driver Fernando Alonso and McLaren Mercedes' British driver Jenson Button celebrate on the podium at the Hockenheim circuit on July 22, 2012 in Hockenheim during the German Formula One Grand Prix.

AFP PHOTO

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US university removes Paterno statue after child sex scandal



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Workers at Penn State University on Sunday used jackhammers and a forklift to remove a statue of legendary football coach Joe Paterno, tarnished by a child sex scandal that saw his top aide imprisoned.

A report found that top officials at Penn State showed "total and consistent disregard" for the well-being of the victims of sex abuse perpetrated by Jerry Sandusky, an assistant football coach at the school who was convicted on pedophilia charges last month.

Sandusky, who is in prison awaiting sentencing after being convicted of molesting 10 boys over 15 years, was the late Paterno's top assistant.

"The statue of Joe Paterno outside Beaver Stadium has become a lightning rod of

controversy and national debate, including the role of big time sports in university life," read a statement Sunday by Penn State President Rodney Erickson.

The statue "has become a source of division and an obstacle to healing in our university and beyond. For that reason, I have decided that it is in the best interest of our university and public safety to remove the statue and store it in a secure location."

Some 30 police officers arrived just after dawn Sunday with a team of workers in hard-hats to remove the statue, the local newspaper, the Centre Daily Times, reported.

continues on page 15

History-maker Bradley Wiggins wins Tour de France

PARIS (AFP) - Bradley Wiggins was crowned Britain's first Tour de France champion on Sunday after helping Sky team-mate Mark Cavendish to secure a fourth consecutive stage win on the world-famous Champs Elysees.

Wiggins, who virtually sealed victory with his second time-trial win of the three-week epic on Saturday, finished the 3,479km race with a 3min 21sec lead over British team-mate Chris Froome after the 20th and last stage to Paris.

It was Isle of Man sprinter Cavendish's fourth consecutive win on the Champs-Elysees, taking his tally of stage wins this year to three and to 23 overall.

"I'm more than happy," said world champion Cavendish as he held his newborn baby at the finish line. "The Champs Elysees is the most beautiful avenue in the world, and I've won here again."

Three years after Wiggins equalled Scot Robert Millar's 1984 best British finish of fourth overall, in 2009, Wiggins finally achieved his childhood dream of winning the world's most prestigious bike race.

Italian Vincenzo Nibali of the Liquigas team finished third overall at 6:19.

"It's magnificent," said Wiggins. "For us to finish like this as a team, helping Mark to victory and allowing him to defend his record here... it's incredible."

Team Sky achieved the rare feat of a 1-2 on the podium, the first since 1996, when Dane Bjarne Riis finished ahead of his German team-mate at Telekom, Jan Ullrich.

It is also the first time compatriots have taken the first two places since France's Laurent Fignon finished ahead of five-time winner Bernard Hinault in the 1984 edition.



Frenchman Thomas Voeckler of Europcar won the polka dot jersey for the race's best climber, with Slovakian Peter Sagan of the Liquigas team easily securing the green jersey for the points competition.

American Tejay Van Garderen made up for BMC team leader Cadel Evans' disastrous title defence by winning the race's white jersey for the best-placed rider aged 25 and under.

Van Garderen was fifth at 11:04 while Evans, who made history for Australia in 2011, eventually finished nearly 16 minutes adrift.

RadioShack's best finisher was Spaniard Haimar Zubeldia, but the American team topped the coveted teams' classification, allowing them a podium appearance.

Dane Chris Anker Sorensen of Saxo Bank was also afforded that pleasure when he was awarded the overall 'most aggressive' rider prize.

In a campaign that was reminiscent of his childhood hero, Spanish legend Miguel Indurain, Wiggins' two time-trial wins on stages nine and 19 proved decisive.

However the Briton's Sky team, and especially Kenyan-born Briton Froome, were omnipresent in the mountain

stages in between.

"He's been incredible throughout the whole Tour," Wiggins, whose mountain pace-setters proved so efficient that few riders were able to sustain their attacks, said of Froome.

Sagan, meanwhile, came close to claiming his fourth stage win when he came fighting back at the finish to cross the line just short of Cavendish.

But the Slovakian was more than happy with his debut.

"I came here to win a stage, so to come away with three plus the green jersey is just unbelievable," said Sagan, who finished with a 141-point margin over German sprinter Andre Greipel.

Voeckler's two stage wins among a total of three for his Europcar team meant French riders won a total of five of the race's 20 stages.

However Britain, thanks exclusively to Team Sky, won six. Cavendish won three to take his tally to 23, Wiggins won both time trials and Froome won the first hilltop finish on stage seven.

"It's been a very successful race for Team Sky, first and second on GC (general classification) and we've won six stages," said Cavendish.